Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A getter for use in a sealed enclosure comprising a readily oxidisable metal or metal compound supported on a solid support, wherein, when said metal is in elemental form, the metal surface area is greater than $5m^2g^{-1}$ of metal.

2-5. (Cancelled without prejudice)

6. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a shaped solid particle suitable for use as a getter for oxygen, said getter comprising a readily oxidisable metal or metal compound supported on a solid support, comprising the steps of:

   (a) forming a shaped particle of solid support material,

   (b) depositing a compound of said metal on said shaped particle of support material, by impregnation or precipitation techniques, and

   (c) reducing at least a portion of said metal compound to elemental metal by heating said shaped support and metal compound in a gaseous stream containing hydrogen.

7. (Cancelled without prejudice)

8. (Currently Amended) An electrical, electronic or optoelectronic apparatus including a sealed enclosure containing a getter in the form of a shaped solid particle adapted to remove oxygen from the atmosphere surrounding the getter in the enclosure, wherein the getter comprises a compound of a metal selected from the group consisting of copper, cobalt, nickel and mixtures thereof supported on a solid support material selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica, silica-alumina, titania, zirconia, carbon and a zeolite, wherein, when said metal is in elemental form, the surface area of the metal is greater than $5m^2g^{-1}$ of metal~~according to claim 1~~.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled without prejudice)

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6 further comprising the step of, between steps b) and c), calcining said shaped metal support and metal compound.

12. (Cancelled without prejudice)

13. (New) A method for gettering oxygen in a sealed enclosure forming at least part of an electrical, electronic or optoelectronic apparatus, said method comprising the step of placing a getter in the form of a shaped solid particle in the sealed enclosure to remove oxygen from the atmosphere surrounding the getter in the enclosure, wherein the getter comprises a compound of a metal selected from the group consisting of copper, cobalt, nickel and mixtures thereof supported on a solid support material selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica, silica-alumina, titania, zirconia, carbon and a zeolite, wherein, when said metal is in elemental form, the surface area of the metal is greater than $5m^2g^{-1}$ of metal.

14. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the shaped solid particle is in the form of a shaped pellet or tablet.

15. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the oxygen is removed from the atmosphere at ambient temperature and pressure.

16. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the shape of the getter is selected from the group consisting of circular, rectangular, triangular, and polygonal.

17. (New) A method according to claim 13, where in the thickness of the getter is between about 0.5 to 5 mm.

18. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the support material is selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica, silica-alumina, titania, zirconia, and a zeolite.

19. (New) A method according to claim 18, wherein the support material is alumina.

20. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the support has a pore volume of at least 0.1 cm^3g^{-1}.

21. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein the support has a pore volume of at least 0.2 cm^3g^{-1}.

22. (New) A method according to claim 21, wherein the support has a pore volume of at least 0.4 cm^3g^{-1}.

23. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the getter further comprises a binder.

24. (New) A method according to claim 23, wherein the binder comprises colloidal silica or fumed silica.

25. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein at least a portion of the metal is in elemental form.

26. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the apparatus has a housing and the enclosure forms the housing of the apparatus.